Autumn Issue, 2011

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Volunteers Needed

Your Association, BARA, is always looking for volunteers. At this time we need a person to do the layout for the Bugle as well as a managing editor, and someone to co-ordinate the rewriting of The Broadmead Story as part of a BARA 25th Anniversary project. We always want new board members too, especially individuals who have an interest in covenants. Please contact info@broadmead.ca if you are willing to take on any of these important community tasks.

President's Message



This is not a new message, and certainly you have heard it before now. Broadmead continues to be one of the most desirable places to live in Victoria, although I must admit that there are times when I question whether some of our residents want our community to maintain its physical beauty: uncluttered streetscapes, manicured lawns and gardens, homes which blend in with the

natural surroundings and other features which make Broadmead unique. The schedules of restrictive covenants are the guidelines which have allowed Broadmead to develop as it has. The covenants to which I refer are your covenants, not BARA's. They are a series of legal documents which are attached to the properties you own; BARA has a responsibility to manage these covenants. The authority to do so has been passed to your community association from the companies which developed the area: Broadmead Farms and Elise Holdings.

There are times when board members ask themselves why we are trying to do something when some residents resist and occasionally even oppose their own covenants. I wonder if some even realize there are covenants and that perhaps they were written for a good reason. When was the last time you read your covenant? Home owners are responsible for the maintenance of their property which should be in compliance with the covenants. The covenants don't really make Broadmead different, residents and their respect for the

covenants and neighbours do. You chose to move here for a reason and collectively you look after your properties in such a way that when a property is neglected it stands out.

The Covenant Management Committee only responds to issues as they are raised by the residents. I encourage you to speak to your neighbours or suggest to your BARA board when you notice that acceptable standards are not being met. In another section of this newsletter you will see what some of the more outstanding issues are.



Email: info@broadmead.ca

We are thankful that the vast majority of Broadmead Residents maintain their properties and keep our streetscapes in the way they were intended to be kept. Working together we can keep our community looking beautiful.

Best regards, Jim Griffith, President



Editor's Corner

Bill Wong

Recently, I heard about the death of one of our neighbours. She lived on the same block but across a busy street and a few doors down. I'm sure that she will be deeply missed by her many family and friends. For me, however, I had no idea how I should feel because I had never met her. So, this sad event was followed by a sombre realization.

I started to wonder why I had no connection with someone living so close and whether it mattered. Then, I thought about our community day event and how that afforded all of us the opportunity to meet folks with whom we would not otherwise cross paths. I think that's important; but, what about people living on the same block?

Social psychologists tell us that we tend to make friends with those in close proximity but only if there is some interaction. All of this prompted me to think about ways in which I could connect with my neighbours, especially those across the street. Send me your best ideas and experiences. I'm interested in knowing what worked for you and whether or not the effort was worthwhile.

info@broadmead.ca



Municipal Affairs

Saanich Councillor. Susan Brice

Many residents have stopped me at the shopping centre and mentioned a couple of issues that are high on everyone's radar it seems. First, the issue of transportation and future plans for transit. We are all very



become over these past few years. I know from my own daily experience that Royal Oak Drive is now steady traffic from early morning until the evening. I believe that a lot of this comes from people making their way through our neighbourhood as they travel from the Western Communities or the Peninsula toward the University or other parts of the region. No matter where the discussion centres, Broadmead, Gordon Head or Wilkinson Road to name a few. Saanich Council is made aware of the frustration that residents feel about this increased congestion. At every public meeting or rezoning discussion the issue of traffic comes up. It is obvious that we must move to planning transportation regionally and include automobiles, cycling, walking and public transit. Regarding the topic of rapid transit and to the discussion taking place regionally I want to lay out for you what decisions have been made and what decisions will be made in the future.

The provincial government has mandated very specific reductions in greenhouse gases with dates that are to be met in order to combat climate change. In order to meet that directive, BC Transit has been working to prepare a future transportation plan for Greater Victoria. The plan envisions a network of buses throughout the entire region to transport people conveniently to discourage the increased use of the single occupancy vehicle. As well, the plan identifies the Douglas Street corridor and a route out to the West Shore that would handle some form of rapid transit technology to move large numbers of drivers out of their cars. The plan with light rail as the preferred option has been endorsed by Saanich Council, the Transit Commission and the CRD.

No funding decisions have been made as this plan could not be implemented without major funding commitments from the federal and provincial governments. A business case has to be made that the ridership numbers will support such a system, that operating costs are factored in and that this is a plan that will work for our region for many decades to come. There is much more work to do to collect all the facts and then there will be much public input. I will be supporting a move to take this to referendum prior to final decision so that you and all the residents who are affected can make the decision. Stay tuned as this will continue to be a very important issue well into the New Year.





Rolston Trail Pilot Project: Rae Roer, Saanich Parks Manager

In partnership with the Broadmead Area Residents' Association (BARA), Saanich Parks is launching a pilot project on the Rolston Trail that will designate the trail as pedestrian only. This is effective immediately upon installation of appropriate signage and will run until the end of June, 2012. Currently, the section of Rolston Trail through Rithet's Bog Conservation area is pedestrian only; the pilot project will extend this designation from Shadywood Drive, through Emily Carr Park to Emily Carr Drive and through Pondwood Park from Emily Carr Drive to Royal Oak Drive.

At the conclusion of the pilot project, Saanich staff, together with the Broadmead Area Residents Association will assess any feedback received as a result of the pilot and determine if the trail will remain pedestrian only.

Cyclists are encouraged to look for the Centennial Trails signs and follow the Royal Oak Trail marked routes following local residential streets.

Additional information is available on our website at www.saanichparks.ca

From January to May 2012, you can provide comments or leave feedback regarding the pilot project by completing an online survey available on our website. We will evaluate the survey results prior to making a recommendation on a permanent designation for the trail. In the meantime, should you have any comments, please email them to us at: parks@saanich.ca

Rolston Trail Signs

7 Signs at 6 Locations

- 1. Shadywood Drive entrance
- Carolwood Drive entrance
- 3. Emily Carr Drive entrance at Emily Carr Park
- 4. Emily Carr Drive entrance at Pondwood Park
- 5. Pondwood Lane entrance at Pondwood Park north and south facing
- 6. Royal Oak Drive entrance at Pondwood Park



Email: info@broadmead.ca

Bus Service in Broadmead: Douglas Baer

Like all Victoria region residents, those of us living in Broadmead pay a considerable amount of property tax for bus service and this will increase with BC Transit's future plans. Perhaps reflecting the view that most Broadmead residents rely exclusively on the private automobile for transportation, service to Broadmead (buses 32, 6A and 6B downtown and 39 to UVic and Camosun) is not particularly frequent and generally stops early in the evening. In contrast, service on the other side of the Pat Bay highway is different and Royal Oak residents have much more frequent service on the weekends including extended service until the early hours of the morning.

But is the presumption of disinterest correct? Do Broadmead residents with families want their teenage children to get home by bus at night after late school or social events? Are those who use the bus to commute to work (for example, to avoid heavy parking fees downtown and at UVic) satisfied with the service? We would like to hear from you on these questions.

So far, the main bus service issues that we can identify are:

- a) The #32 downtown express bus service along Royal Oak is useless for those on a 9 to 5 or even 9 to 4:30 work schedule.
- b) The last bus from downtown to Broadmead (#6) leaves at 9:16 pm, while it would be easy to route later Royal Oak #6 buses around Broadmead as well.
- c) Service along Chatterton Way is non-existent on weekends.
- d) The #6A bus from downtown at suppertime sometimes gets cancelled, stranding commuters.
- e) Early evening and weekend service on #39 is too infrequent (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hour interval).
- f) There are no bus bays for passenger pick up at Royal Oak exchange.

If you agree with any of these concerns, have concerns of your own to add, or, conversely, feel BARA should not seek to persuade BC transit to improve service, please write to us at info@broadmead.ca or BARA, Box 53527, Broadmead RPO, Victoria BC V8X 5K2.

Broadmead Talk: Jim Griffith

- BARA owes special thanks to John Bremner who has served on the BARA Board and on the BCES Board for the past 10 years. John has recently left the board and his presence will certainly be missed. His contributions are numerous and include: the revised constitution, covenant guidelines, and the electronic newsletter.
- Need Basic Help With Your Computer Programmes? If you are a senior living in Broadmead and would like help with basic computer skills such as setting up and using email, loading and saving pictures on your computer, or assistance with other computer programmes, help may be available for you. To take advantage of this opportunity to upgrade your computer skills contact BARA and we will arrange for one of our volunteer executives to call and arrange a time to assist you. For strata owners, individual or small groups would be appropriate.
- Community Day was held on July 10 at Broadmead Village and was enjoyed by more than 400 people. Thank you to the many volunteers who made this event so successful and to the many residents who attended.
- Beckwith Blueberry Farm in the Blenkinsop Valley now has 14 complaints filed against it for using propane cannons to control birds. Your BARA executive have been actively involved in discussions with Government on this issue.
- The CRD Planning, Transportation & Protective Services Committee has been asked to compile statistics and background information on deer. The intent is to determine whether the CRD will take a role in developing a deer management strategy to respond to issues associated with deer population in both urban and rural areas. Submissions should be sent to deermanagement@crd.bc.ca which has been established specifically to receive input, suggestions, offers of assistance, and to documented issues regarding the urban deer population.

Covenant Corner

Broadmead is one of Victoria's most desirable areas in which to live. With well maintained and extensive walking trails, gardens, trees, wildlife and diverse architectural styles, the area is attractive to residents and visitors alike.

An important aspect in maintaining the ambience of Broadmead is the restrictive legal covenants placed on every home. They cover many features of the property from its architectural style, exterior colour, parking restrictions and more. The covenants are one of the main reasons for the enduring attractiveness of Broadmead, and most residents appreciate and support the covenants.

One of the most prominent complaints received by BARA involves the parking of cars and related issues. Generally the covenants restrict home owners to three cars in the driveway, and do not allow for commercial vans to be stored or parked on a regular basis at the front of Broadmead homes. Street parking is very strongly discouraged as it is one of the biggest detractions from the ambience of the area and is not in the spirit of Broadmead expectations. Boats and trailers may be stored on an owner's property providing they are suitably screened from street view.

The covenants also require that property owners obtain approval from BARA with respect to renovations or any external changes in landscape or architecture. This is usually a quick and easy process contacting BARA by email through the web site. A BARA representative will usually arrange a meeting depending on the scale and nature of the proposed changes.

BARA would like all home owners to become familiar with the restrictive covenants placed on their property, and to respect the intent of these restrictions, because this is essentially the difference between a beautiful Broadmead and any other neighbourhood in Victoria. For more information about the covenants please visit www.broadmead.ca/covenants.htm.

Paul Stringer

BARA's position on the use of cannons in the Blenkinsop Valley:

"BARA has enjoyed a cordial and cooperative relationship with its Blenkinsop Valley neighbours for more than 20 years. We have always supported farming in the valley and continue to do so. That said, we do not support the use of propane cannons in the Blenkinsop Valley because of their negative impact on a large number of our residents. To our knowledge cannons have never been used in the past and we believe that alternative, and more appropriate, methods of bird deterrence are available.

The location of the Blenkinsop Valley within an urban area is unique and we believe that an adjustment of farm practices to recognize this fact would be appropriate. We do not believe that the use of cannons is normal or accepted farm practice in this area, even thought it may be normal in other parts of the province."





Membership News: Robert Hehn

Once again it is time to renew your membership in your community association. BARA continues to advocate for all the residents of the Broadmead area. Your directors work hard on a variety of issues to ensure our neighbourhood continues to be an attractive place to live and the preferred residential area of so many people. Our strength lies in a strong membership, so please renew today.

You will find the membership form on page 10 of this newsletter. If you have questions, look for the BARA information table in the Broadmead Shopping Center on December 10 and January 7. Directors will be in attendance and look forward to meeting you.

Questions can always be sent to:

info@broadmead.ca., or Box 53527 Broadmead RPO, Victoria, BC, V8X 5K2

Remember When: Kathleen Bellamano

Have you ever wondered where the name for Lohbrunner Road came from? It was named for the fascinating and remarkable Dr. Edmund Herman Lohbrunner. He was a local nurseryman, plant hunter, and internationally known horticulturalist who operated a nursery called Ed Lohbrunner's Lakeside Gardens. He lived from 1904 to 1986 and is fondly remembered for discovering and introducing a number of native Pacific Northwest plants into cultivation. Dr. Lohbrunner's legacy lives on in a variety of ways.

Within the Broadmead area, Lohbrunner Park on Copsewood Place and the Lohbrunner Trail, that is part of the Lochside Trail, are both named on his behalf. An access road connecting Lochside Drive and Blenkinsop Road was named Lohbrunner Road East to recognize entry to a parcel of land that he had purchased from the prominent Mercer family. In Victoria, the Vancouver Island Rock and Alpine Garden Society (VIRAGS) hold an annual Lohbrunner Lecture. This began in 1986 and each year a noted guest speaker is invited in his honour: www.virags.ca

Dr. Lohbrunner was also a founding member of the Thetis Park Nature Sanctuary. He collaborated with botanist Adam Szczawinski, businessman Alfred deMezey and Dr. Lewis J. Clark of the University of Victoria's chemistry department to maintain the beauty and diversity around Thetis Lake. They initiated a petition to stop the impending housing development and then, on February 26, 1957, Lohbrunner, Szcawinsky and Clark applied to form a park. In 1958, city council adopted the recommendation to bring Thetis Lake Park Sanctuary into being. It was thought to be the first nature sanctuary in Canada (Crocker, p. 32).

At around the same time, another group led by Szczawinski tried to create a national arboretum in Victoria. The newly formed "Arboretum Society of the Pacific Northwest" initially searched for a suitable piece of land but it quickly became clear that no single plot of land would work and government support for the initiative fell through. With an alternate plan in mind, they sought smaller plots in order to specialize in specific horticulture areas. One of these was PlayFair Park, and Dr. Lohbrunner donated many of the now highly regarded rhododendrons.

In addition, this beloved nurseryman was awarded an honorary law degree (LLD) from the University of Victoria in 1975. His efforts were also recognized beyond the island. At the University of British Columbia's Botanical Gardens, the spectacular E.H. Lohbrunner Alpine Garden was completed in 1978 and is one of the largest in North America: www.botanicalgarden.ubc.ca/alpine-garden

Learning about Dr Lohbrunner was like stumbling upon a great find in a thrift shop. He is an undervalued treasure and the fascinating details have whet my appetite for local history. *References:*

Crocker, L. (1999). A Cultural History of Three Regional Parks, Harvey, M. J. (2006). Magnificent Failure: PlayFair Park, Harvey, M. J. (2010). University Finnerty Garden Friends Newsletter. Goldilocks and the Three Ferns, Planning Department, The Corporation of the District of Saanich. (2008). Blenkinsop Local Area Plan.





Broadmead Artist: Sandra Levy

Even though the sky was overcast and foreboding, the illumination inside of Sandra Levy's home studio was bright. I noticed her clay sculptures sitting along a window-side, waiting for inspection and admiration. In addition, Sandra had assembled some oil paintings and pastel sketches so that I could better understand her subject matter. Immediately, I could see the use of dark and bold colours that effectively contrasted one another. Her portrayals are of living organisms. One painting, done at Beaver Lake and entitled "Titan", showed the magnificent remnant of a once towering tree. Although, all that remains is a grand trunk with hulking roots, there is no doubt that life still exists within it.



Several other oil paintings were of nudes. Sandra drew attention to one in particular, describing the powerful "mountainous" figure, again done in strong, bold and alive colours. Her creations are a culmination of decades of "doing and evaluating". She explained to me that this iterative process is responsible for any progression as an artist. This is one of the central messages she passes on to other artists at Victoria's Xchanges Gallery, where she organizes a "drop-in" painting group.

Sandra started drawing when she was very young - "scribbles" as she called them. Like many artists, she drew what captivated her interest. This simple beginning progressed to formal training at École des Beaux-Arts, now known as Université de Quebec, followed by a scholarship to undertake graduate studies in painting at Arizona State University,



and then a Master's Degree in Art Education at Concordia University. Later on, she discovered an interest in science and studied Botany, culminating in the completion of a Master's Degree in Science. This is the influence that permeates all of her art.

Originally from Montreal, she and her husband Claude relocated to Broadmead 16 years ago. Since then, Sandra has exhibited her artwork at many local venues. She is presently exhibiting works at the "She Said Gallery" in Fernwood and "Bean Around the World" Coffee Shop on Fisgard. *Bill Wong*



Transfer of Authority: Jim Griffith

The Broadmead Area Residents' Association (BARA) has been designated and named as the authorized agent and nominee with respect to all matters relating to any restrictive covenant or building scheme affecting the residential area contiguous with the community of Broadmead described to the right:

This residential area was developed by Elise Holdings (Mann) during the period 1985 to 1991. There are 123 properties located in this area. Residents now residing in this development should contact the BARA if they have any questions concerning the covenant which is attached to their property. All realtors will be advised that the real-estate signs to be used in

The area in the District of Saanich lying generally to the east of a line extending from Lochside Trail in the northeast to Valewood Park in the southwest and comprising all or most of the residential streets of Pheasantwood Terrace, Faithwood Road, Faithwood Place, Gracewood Terrace and Praisewood Terrace.

this area will be the same as those required for use in the rest of Broadmead.

The term of this appointment is for an unlimited period of time. It may be revoked or terminated on sixty (60) days notice by either Mann or BARA. Copies of all of the restrictive covenants and/or building schemes applying to the area have been provided to BARA and will be retained by them for the term of this appointment.

Rithet's Bog

CATTAIL REMOVAL AT RITHET'S BOG: Russ Pym

The Rithet's Bog Conservation Area hosted its second annual cattail clearing event on Saturday September 24, 2011. This event was a cooperative effort of the Rithet's Bog Conservation Society, Ducks Unlimited and Saanich Parks Pulling Together Volunteer Program. Saanich Parks also provided support staff and equipment. This year we worked in two new areas and cleared a total length of 32 meters along the trail adjacent to Chatterton Way. The clearing extends from trailside to open water.

The goals of our cattail clearing project are to:

- Reclaim areas of seasonal open water and mudflat to provide habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds and native plants.
- Open up nature viewing opportunities for the public.
- Selectively remove two non-native invasive species of cattails, the eastern Narrow Leaf Cattail (Typha angustifolia) and the Hybrid or White Cattail (T. x glauca).
- Maintain stands of the native species, Common or Broad Leaf Cattail (T. latifolia), which we consider to be an important part of the marsh habitat.

The Hybrid Cattail has proven to be extremely invasive, spreading over large areas of the marsh and forming a dense monoculture which is not suitable habitat for water fowl, shorebirds or native marsh flora. Our strategy is evolving as we gain experience, but will probably involve cutting of a stand the first year to remove the accumulated biomass of stems and leaves, followed by pulling of re-growth and rhizomes in subsequent years to achieve permanent removal. The cattail removal program will require several years to deal with the large area affected by the Hybrid.

Offsite disposal of the cut material would have been prohibitively expensive, so we were forced to resort to onsite disposal. The cuttings have been windrowed under black plastic landscape sheet in the field below the information kiosk at the corner of Chatterton Way and Dalewood Lane. This area is completely overgrown by the non-native, invasive and persistent Reed Canary Grass, so native flora will not be impacted by the windrows. We hope that the windrows will kill the grass underneath, allowing native plants to re-colonize the area. The windrowed material will eventually be used as mulch.

We thank the 23 volunteers who joined us this year and we hope to see you next year. The success of our program and the future of the marsh at Rithet's Bog depends on your support and participation.



Rithet's Bog Conservation Society (RBCS) is a registered non profit Society dedicated to the care and stewardship of Rithet's Bog Conservation Area, which contains the last remaining peat bog on the Saanich Peninsula. RBCS works closely with Saanich Parks, advising on the ecology and management of the park, particularly the bog ecosystem. Extensive educational material has also been developed by RBCS, including information on the post-settlement human history of the area. RBCS is a Federated Club of the Federation of BC Naturalists. http://www.rithetsbog.org/

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Distribution: Barb Lawton, Katie Smith, Pam and Dave Murray and 50+ carriers

Membership List: John Fahey

Refreshments: Maxine Campbell

Community Day:
Sulo Saravanabawan

Meet Your BARA Board Members

Kathleen Bellamano

Kat is a mediator and arbitrator and Executive Director of the South Island Dispute Resolution Centre. She is also a student studying social work at UVic and Thompson River University. She joined BARA because she has a passion for community development and believes that having a voice starts with getting involved. In Kat's work as a mediator she specializes in family and community issues. Kat and her husband Richard have two fantastic daughters and moved to Broadmead three years ago. She enjoys biking, hiking, gardening and loves entertaining and cooking for friends. "We love being outdoors so Broadmead



gives us great access trails and walking Rithet's Bog in autumn is fantastic."

Robert Hehn

Robert grew up and attended schools in Victoria as well as the University of Victoria. He worked for a time for Canadian Pacific Express before returning to school to

complete his teacher's training. He taught in various elementary schools and diverse neighbourhoods in School District #61 (Greater Victoria) from 1969 until retiring in 2002. His interest in administration led him to a vice-principalship at Sir James Douglas and principalship at Macaulay Elementary and McKenzie Elementary.

Robert enjoys playing golf and he has a keen interest in riding a bicycle for fitness, trying to get out two or three times a week for a ride on the nearby trails. Playing slow pitch baseball on an over 40 men's team is another interest and source of fun as is travel. Robert reports that working with the other BARA directors is very interesting and informative as well as being reverging. His main responsibility has become encouraging BAR

rewarding. His main responsibility has become encouraging BARA Membership. Robert and his wife Teresa moved to the Broadmead area in 1986, and built a house in a newly opened area. They love the quiet streets, the helpful neighbours, the beautifully cared for yards and the community amenities; all the best that the Broadmead area typifies.

BARA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM (January 1—December 31, 2012)

Complete and mail this form with your cheque for \$15.00 payable to BARA, for a one-year housely	old membership, to
Broadmead Area Residents' Association, Box 53527, Broadmead RPO, Victoria, BC V8X 5K2.	

Renewing Member: □	New Member: □	Cheque: □	Cash: □
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Address:			
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/ -			

(Email addresses are protected and not placed on any web site)

You may inquire about the status of your membership or update your email address by sending an email to info@broadmead.ca or by mail to the postal address above.

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Lana Popham, MLA Saanich South

I work in a non-partisan way to improve our quality of life. If you are concerned about a provincial issue, please contact me.

Community Office

4085 Quadra St. Mon-Fri, 9:30 am - 5:00 pm Tel. 250 479 4154 | Fax. 250.479.4176 Email: lana.popham.mla@leg.bc.ca

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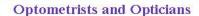
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